FEB 2 4 2006 BU

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/073,346

Applicant

: Kelly G. AMMANN, et al.

Filed

: February 13, 2002

TC/A.U.

: 1743

Examiner

: Latoya I. CROSS

Docket No.

: 2599-104-C2

Customer No.

: 6449

Confirmation No.

: 8235

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MS - DD

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application.

Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08.

We also enclose a copy of the European Search Report issued in counterpart application no. 05019228.5-2113 listing the cited documents. US 5,470,744 cited in the report was already cited in a prior IDS and is not being listed in the PTO/SB/08. The following foreign patent documents cited in the report are being cited by their corresponding US patents: EP 0293782, citation no. 2; EP 0458138, citation no. 3; EP 0571033, citation no. 5; EP 0525577, citation no. 6; and EP 0569214, citation no. 7.

We also enclose a copy of the European Search Report issued in counterpart European application no. 05019229.3-2113 listing the cited documents. EP 0,502,638, cited in the report was already cited in a prior IDS and is not being listed in the PTO/SB/08.

JAW 1743

U.S. Application No.: 10/073,346

Page 2

The information contained in the IDS statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS. No fee or certification is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Ву_

Richard Wydeven
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 39,881

ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, p.c.

Suite 800, 1425 K Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202)783-6040

Date: February 24, 2006

Enclosure(s): Cited Foreign References (3)

European Search Reports (2)

2599-104-C2-3rd.IDS.wpd

Complete if Known **Application Number** 10/073,346 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date February 13, 2002 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT PTO/SB/08 First Named Inventor Kelly G. AMMANN **Group Art Unit** 1743 Latoya I. CROSS **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number 2599-104-C2 STANT & THADE Customer No. 6449 2 Confirmation No. 8235 Sheet 1 of

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

		0.0.17(1)			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	
	1	2,313,045	Edward A. Brown		
	2	4,871,676	Yamada	10-03-1989	
	3	5,075,079	Kerr, et al.	12-24-1991	
	4	5,167,448	Herold, et al.	12-01-1992	
	5	5,250,261	Porte	10-05-1993	
•	6	5,254,315	Nurse, et al.	10-19-1993	
_	7	5,346,303	Heinonen, et al.	09-13-1994	
	, i				

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.

							Complete if Known				
							Application Number	10/073,346			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT PTO/SB/08							Filing Date	Februar	February 13, 2002		
							First Named Inventor	Kelly G. AMMANN			
							Group Art Unit	1743			
							Examiner Name	Latoya I. CROSS 2599-104-C2			
							Attorney Docket Number				
							Customer No.	6449	6449		
She	et		2	of	7	2	Confirmation No.	8235			
					FORE	IGN P	ATENT DOCUMENTS	**	,		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kin Code (if ki			' Kir		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T6	
	8	EP	0435481			A2	Anagen Limited	nagen Limited			
	9	GB	2081118			Α	Technicon Instruments Co	rporation	02-17-1982		
	10	JP 57171266 (abstract only)			ract ily)		Sunstar Kinzoku KK		04-14-1981	AE	
										-	
Examiner Signature							Date Conside	rod		1	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁴Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.